

Family life



In June, female hedgehogs give birth to four or five young hedgehogs, called hoglets, in a nest in a sheltered place. The hoglets are born naked and blind. They weigh between only 20 and 25 grams at birth. The babies are born without *spines* so that the mother doesn't get hurt when giving birth. The first spines appear within the first two days. They are soft and white.



After three weeks their eyes open. Their first steps are quite wobbly.



They are fed on their mother's milk for four to eight weeks. Afterwards, their mother shows them how to find their own food.

After two months, the hedgehog mother stops caring for her young and lets them live on their own. Only 10% of hoglets survive their first year.